

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview (407-736-4234) with Janet D. Hood and Tina Gonka on February 24, 2010.

THE TITLE HAS BEEN AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

--A SERVER FOR ENGINEERING AN AUTOMATION SYSTEM--

The application has been amended as follows: claim 27 on p. 2 of 13 and claim 33 on p. 4 of 13.

IN THE CLAIMS

2. Claims 32, 40-42 are canceled

3. Claims 27 and 33 are amended as follows:

27. A server for engineering an automation system, comprising:

a remote client comprising a Web browser;

a storage system in the server, in which files are stored in a first format that cannot be processed by the Web browser, the files being needed or created for engineering the automation system; ~~and~~

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a communications interface in the server via which the remote client accesses the files, wherein the interface comprises first means for converting and transmitting the remote client a copy of selected ones of the files in a second format comprising HTML or DHTML or XML or JavaScript or SVG, that can be processed by the Web browser of the remote client, and the interface comprises second means for receiving files created or modified from each remote client, converting the received files into the first format, and storing the received files into the storage system in the first format;

wherein the selected ones of the files in the second format are modified by the remote client;

wherein the access management device prioritizes access to the given file by assigning different access priorities to different clients, locks the given file for access by an earliest requesting client until a later requesting client requests the given file, then compares the access priorities of the earliest and later requesting clients, and if the later requesting client has higher access priority than the earliest requesting client, notifies the earliest requesting client that access to the given file will be switched to the later requesting client, otherwise continuing to reserve the given file for the earliest requesting client; and

wherein the first format is not HTML and not DHTML and not XML and not SVG and not JavaScript.

33. A server for engineering and configuring an automation system, comprising:

a memory in the server for storing files for engineering and configuring the automation system, wherein the files are stored in a first format that can be processed by the server; ~~and~~

an interface in the server for providing network access to the files by a client comprising a Web browser, the client being remote from the server, wherein the Web browser cannot process files in the first format, wherein the interface comprises:

a first means for making a copy of selected files in the memory, converting the copy to a second format that can be processed by the Web browser in the client, and transmitting the copy in the second format to the client; ~~and~~

a second means for receiving files created or modified by the remote client, converting the received files from a received format into the first format, and storing them in the memory; wherein the selected files in the second format are modified by the remote client;

wherein the access management device prioritizes access to the given file by assigning different access priorities to different clients, locks the given file for access by an earliest requesting client until a later requesting client requests the given file, then compares the access priorities of the earliest and later requesting clients, and if the later requesting client has higher access priority than the earliest requesting client, notifies the earliest requesting client that access to the given file will be switched to the later requesting client, otherwise continuing to reserve the given file for the earliest requesting client; and

wherein the first format is not HTML and not DHTML and not XML and not SVG and not JavaScript.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an Examiner's statement for reasons for allowance:

Claims 27-31 and 33-39 are considered allowable since when reading the claims in light of the specification, as per MPEP §2111.01 or *Toro Co. v. White Consolidated Industries Inc.*, 199 F.3d 1295, 1301, 53 USPQ2d 1065, 1069 (Fed. Cir. 1999) none of the references of record alone or in combination disclose or suggest the combination of limitations specified in the independent claims, "...a storage system in the server, in which files are stored in a first format that cannot be processed by the Web browser, the files being needed or created for engineering the automation system; wherein the access management device prioritizes access to the given file by assigning different access priorities to different clients, locks the given file for access by an earliest requesting client until a later requesting client requests the given file, then compares the access priorities of the earliest and later requesting clients, and if the later requesting client has higher access priority than the earliest requesting client, notifies the earliest requesting client that access to the given file will be switched to the later requesting client, otherwise continuing to

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reserve the given file for the earliest requesting client; and wherein the first format is not HTML and not DHTML and not XML and not SVG and not JavaScript” as disclosed in independent claim 27 of the instant application (as defined at pages 1-3, paragraphs: [0016]-[0037] of the specification of the instant application).

5. When taken in context the claim(s) as a whole was/were not disclosed in any prior art i.e., the dependent claims are allowed as they depend upon an allowable independent claim.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments regarding Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARK O. AFOLABI whose telephone number is (571) 270-5627. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between (8:30 am to 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, NATHAN FLYNN can be reached on 571-272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/M.O.A/

MARK O. AFOLABI

Examiner Art Unit 2454

/NATHAN FLYNN/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2454